

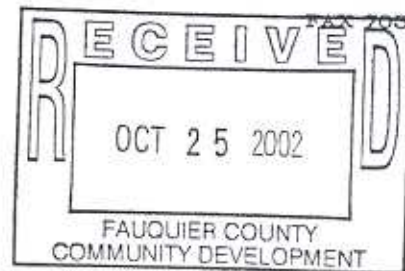
201-B ROYAL STREET, S.E.  
LEESBURG, VA 20175

October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2002

703.771.9120

FAX 703.443.0877

Mr. Robert Moore, Resident Engineer  
Virginia Department of Transportation  
457 East Shirley Avenue  
Warrenton, VA  
20186



Mr. G. Robert Lee, County Administrator  
County of Fauquier  
40 Culpeper Street  
Warrenton, VA  
20186

Re: Request for Abandonment of Route 671/Scott Magisterial District  
North of Paris, Virginia/PIN #6035-91-4374.

Gentlemen:

This letter will follow up on my conversation of October 9<sup>th</sup> with Mr. Moore. My clients are Mrs. Beatrice Beckner and her son, Robert O. Beckner. What we seek is the abandonment of that section of Route 671 which is in Fauquier County and which crosses the land of Mrs. Beckner.

Mrs. Beckner is the record owner of a tract of land comprised of approximately thirty-two acres of land, situated partly in Loudoun County but mostly in Fauquier County. She has owned that parcel, along with her late husband Willard O. Beckner, since 1963. The parcel is served by Route 671, which begins from the northerly side of Route 50 in Fauquier County, and heads in a generally north-easterly direction, through a parcel owned by Robert O. Beckner past the Paris water storage system tank, into Beatrice F. Beckner's property and across the Fauquier-Loudoun county line, and farther into Loudoun county. At one time it ultimately connected with Route 601 near Mount Weather in Loudoun County, but on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2002 the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors voted to abandon a section of Route 671 northeast of the Beatrice F. Beckner property, so now Route 671 does not connect to any other road.

There have been continued problems over the years with unauthorized hunters, trespassers, and vandals coming onto the Beatrice F. Beckner property. Now, since the Loudoun abandonment, one cannot even say that the public is using the road for access to another road, because now Route 671 does not lead anywhere *except* onto private property. There seems to be no good reason to continue any public right of access on this road.

\* RR - SEE 6AL  
\* CONFIRM THAT PROPERTY IS IN MARSHALL DISTRICT  
\* STYLE FOR 10/25 MTG W/HA  
\* COPIES FOR COUNCIL TO P. McCulla and WSACK 10/23/02

Confirmed w/Comm. Rev.

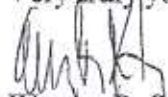
The road itself is essentially unimproved, with only property owners doing any of the little maintenance which has been done. It is steep, deeply rutted and overgrown, neither paved nor graveled, and a four-wheel drive vehicle would likely be necessary to traverse the section in question. In fact, for many years there was a wire-rope barricade across it, so it seems safe to say that it has not been used for vehicular travel at all in decades.

I understand that VDOT records show a length beginning at Route 50 extending for a total distance of .28 miles, but that regardless of the official distance that VDOT has not maintained the road beyond the approximate area of the Paris water storage system tank. It appears that the primary interest of Fauquier County is in retaining access to the Paris water treatment plant. We do not seek the abandonment of the section of Route 671 which serves the Paris facility, but only that which is northeast of the facility, so Fauquier County's access to it would not be in any way affected by the proposed abandonment. What is more, should Fauquier County see fit to grant the proposed abandonment, my clients may also be willing to grant access to Fauquier County to a pumphouse and spring situated on the Loudoun portion of the property, to help alleviate the chronic water shortages in the town of Paris.

The Beckner property is the only property in Fauquier County through which this Route 671 runs. There is another parcel, located entirely in Loudoun County, not Fauquier, which could be affected by this proposed abandonment. It is owned by a Mr. Timothy Shearer, who has owned the parcel for approximately twenty-five years. It consists of approximately forty-five acres of unimproved land; and we believe that because of topography and soil conditions it is unlikely to ever support more than one residence, if that. Mrs. Beckner is prepared to grant an access easement to Mr. Shearer to prevent his parcel from becoming landlocked, should this abandonment be granted, but would obviously prefer not to do so if the abandonment were **not** to be granted. Accordingly, before doing so we would request some sort of feedback from your respective organizations.

We would ask that you please take whatever action(s) are appropriate to commence the abandonment, and that you please communicate with us what those action(s) are, and what if anything we can do to assist. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. I remain

Very truly yours,



Warren R. Stein